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TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

July 31, 2012

TO: Internal File

THRU: Priscilla Burton, Lead

FROM: Ken Hoffman, Hydrologist KH

RE: Equipment Abandonment, Canyon Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, C/007/0005, Task #4149

SUMMARY:

On July 11, 2012, the Utah Division of Oil Gas & Mining received an application for an amendment to the Mining & Reclamation Plan (MRP) of the Skyline mine. The application seeks approval to abandon 167 pieces of armored face conveyor in an area that is being sealed. The components are reported to be 100 percent steel with no associated fluids or other components. A similar amendment was approved in 2008 as part of Task 2950. This amendment does not differ significantly.

This memo addresses the application's compliance with the hydrology (R645-301-700) section of the Utah Coal Mining Rules. Contents and information provided are sufficient enough to meet the minimum requirements of this section of the Utah Coal Mining Rules.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: Pub. L 95-87 Sections 507(b), 508(a), and 516(b); 30 CFR 783., et. al.

HYDROLOGIC RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 701.5, 784.14; R645-100-200, -301-724.

Probable Hydrologic Consequences Determination

Analysis:

The mining impact on water quantity is described in Section 2.5.2 of the MRP and documents the potential of steel to release iron and chromium into water after closure of the mine. The potential for this release is detail with the description of a study conducted by the University of Utah Metallurgy Department on release of iron and chromium from steel in the mining environment.

Findings:

Section 2.5.2 adequately addresses impacts of the amendment to hydrologic resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The amendment (Task 4149) meets the requirements of the hydrology (R645-301-700) section of the Utah Coal Mining Rules and is recommended for approval.

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